

# Arkansas Insurance Department

Mike Huckabee  
Governor



Julie Benafield Bowman  
Commissioner

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Jonesboro Insurance Scam Ring Convicted**

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS (October 31, 2006) — State Insurance Commissioner Julie Benafield Bowman announced today the conviction of Curtis Moore of Jonesboro. On October 27, 2006, Moore entered a negotiated plea of guilty to one count of Class B felony Theft of Property for his involvement in an insurance scam ring that bilked insurance companies of more than \$352,962.00.

Moore, Michael Gates, Brenton Gibson, and Casiprin Gibson had filed forged paper work with insurance companies for injuries that did not happen. Michael Gates had submitted claims to one company for the surgical removal of an eye on two different occasions.

Arkansas Insurance Department Criminal Investigation Division Investigator Bill Bryan successfully investigated all four individuals. His investigation provided the information necessary for the Prosecutor's Office in Craighead County to convict all four men that resulted in a total of \$234,176.67 in restitution.

It is estimated that \$80 to \$120 billion is lost to insurance fraud every year. That loss adds about \$1,000 per household to insurance costs. The Arkansas Insurance Department has seven investigators who are dedicated to investigating insurance fraud. If you know or suspect of an instance of insurance fraud, you can contact the division at their toll free hotline (866) 660-0888. To learn more about the Criminal Investigation Division, please visit their website at [www.fightfraud.arkansas.gov](http://www.fightfraud.arkansas.gov).

The Arkansas Insurance Department is located at 1200 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Cross) in downtown Little Rock. Its primary mission is consumer protection through insurer solvency and market conduct regulation, and fraud prosecution and deterrence. To learn more about the Insurance Department, please visit our website at [www.insurance.arkansas.gov](http://www.insurance.arkansas.gov).

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